

**Federal Emergency Management Agency
PUBLIC NOTICE**

**Notice of Availability of the Draft Environmental Assessment
for the Plaster Creek Flood Mitigation Project, Grand Rapids, Michigan
FEMA DR-1346-MI**

Interested persons are hereby notified that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is proposing to assist in the funding of flood mitigation measures along Plaster Creek in the City of Grand Rapids, Kent County, Michigan. In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 and the implementing regulations of FEMA, an Environmental Assessment (EA) is being prepared to assess the potential impacts of the proposed action on the human and natural environment. This also provides public notice to invite public comments on the proposed project in accordance with Executive Order 11988, Floodplain Management, and Executive Order 11990, Protection of Wetlands. In addition, this notice and the draft EA provide information to the public on potential impacts to historic and cultural resources from the proposed undertaking, as outlined in the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966.

The alternatives to be evaluated include (1) No Action; (2) Improvements/Additions to Flood Control Structures (Proposed Action), which would involve measures designed to protect residential structures from floodwaters including: raising an existing earthen levee along the south side of Plaster Creek; installing a pump station behind the levee for interior drainage; constructing a 700-foot long steel sheet pile floodwall on the south side of Plaster Creek; constructing a series of low earthen levees and modular block floodwalls along Plaster Creek; and clearing vegetation from an existing diversion channel to restore conveyance capacity; (3) Acquisition and Relocation/Demolition, which would involve acquisition of homes within the Plaster Creek floodplain and demolition of the homes or relocation outside of the 100-year floodplain

The draft EA is available for review between April 17 to May 17, 2006, at the Grand Rapids City Clerk's Office, 300 Monroe NW, Grand Rapids, Michigan, and the Grand Rapids Public Library, 111 Library Street NE, Grand Rapids, Michigan, during normal business hours. The draft EA is also available for review online at the FEMA website <http://www.fema.gov/ehp/docs.shtm>.

Written comments regarding this environmental action should be received no later than 5 p.m. on May 17, 2006, by Jeanne Millin, Regional Environmental Officer, 536 Clark Street, 6th Floor, Chicago, IL 60605-1521, or at Jeanne.Millin@fema.gov.

If no comments are received by the above deadline, the draft EA will be considered final and a Finding of No Significant Impact will be published by FEMA.